

FEB 15 2006

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TRANSMITTAL
FORM

(To be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission 9

Application Number 09/544,399

Filing Date April 8, 2000

First Named Inventor Royce W. Johnson

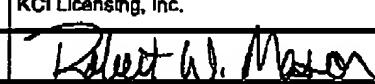
Art Unit 3781

Examiner Name Michael G. Bogart

Certificate

FEB 21 2006

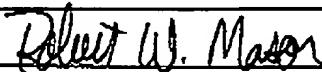
of Correction

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Remarks Certificate of Correction Copy of RCE dated April 7, 2005 (4 pgs.) Copy of Amendments to the Claims dated November 5, 2004 (3 pgs.)		
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT		
Firm Name	KCI Licensing, Inc.	
Signature		
Printed name	Robert W. Mason	
Date	February 15, 2006	Reg. No. 42,848

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Signature



Typed or printed name

Robert W. Mason

Date February 15, 2006

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PAGE 1/9 * RCVD AT 2/15/2006 3:40:56 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-6/30 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:210 255 6969 * DURATION (mm:ss):01:46

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT NO. : 6,994,702 B1

Page 1 of 1

APPLICATION NO.: 09/544,399

ISSUE DATE : February 7, 2006

INVENTOR(S) : Royce W. Johnson

It is certified that an error appears or errors appear in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

(54) the title should read "Negative Pressure Wound Therapy Pad with Adaptation for Phototherapy"

Column 5, line 25 delete "comprises"

Column 5, line 25 replace "open cell" with "open-cell"

Column 6, line 4 replace "comprising" with "comprises"

Column 6, line 13 add "emitter" after "energy"

Column 6, line 23 add "that" after therapy

Column 6, line 23/24 replace "comprise" with "comprises"

MAILING ADDRESS OF SENDER (Please do not use customer number below):

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William H. Quirk

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PATENT

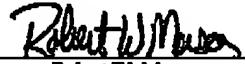
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 09/544,399 Confirmation No. 8788
 Inventor : JOHNSON, Royce W.
 Filed : 04/06/2000
 Group Art Unit : 3761
 Examiner : Bogart, Michael G.
 Docket No. : VAC.561.US
 Customer No. : 30159
 Title: VACUUM ASSISTED CLOSURE PAD WITH ADAPTATION
 FOR PHOTOTHERAPY

Mail Stop 313(c)
 Commissioner for Patents
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 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**CERTIFICATE OF
TRANSMISSION/ MAILING**
37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below.

April 7, 2005 

Robert W. Mason

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

In this Request for Continued Examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this paper.

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App. No. 09/544,399
RCE

AMENDMENTS

In the Title:

The title in the present application reads:

“VACUUM ASSISTED CLOSURE PAD WITH ADAPTATION FOR PHOTOTHERAPY”

Please amend the title of the present application as follows:

Delete: **“VACUUM ASSISTED CLOSURE”**

Add in its place: **“NEGATIVE PRESSURE WOUND THERAPY”**

The amended title should read:

“NEGATIVE PRESSURE WOUND THERAPY PAD WITH ADAPTATION FOR PHOTOTHERAPY”

App. No. 09/544,399
RCE

REMARKS

Applicant herewith submits a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. 1.114. In the foregoing Amendment, Applicant requests the title be amended from "VACUUM ASSISTED CLOSURE PAD WITH ADAPTATION FOR PHOTOTHERAPY" to "NEGATIVE PRESSURE WOUND THERAPY PAD WITH ADAPTATION FOR PHOTOTHERAPY".

Applicant will also address issues raised in Examiner's Office Action dated 03/10/2005, and will direct Examiner's attention to the Formal Drawings filed by Applicant on 01/10/2005.

In Examiner's Communication, Examiner requests drawings correcting the informalities noted on December 17, 2003, by the Official Draftsman. Applicant respectfully calls Examiner's attention to Applicant's Response to Request for Formal Drawings submitted January 10, 2005. Copies of the Response, Formal Drawings, and the Return Receipt Postcard stamped received by the PTO on January 13, 2005, are attached for Examiner's reference and consideration.

Additionally, Examiner's Communication indicates that Applicant's Information Disclosure Statement dated September 11, 2003, was considered "except for" the non-patent literature listed on page 5. Those references, along with additional references are being submitted herewith in a First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement for Examiner's review and consideration in the present application.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that Examiner review and consider the above matters as a result of the filing of this RCE. If upon consideration of the above, Examiner feels that outstanding issues remain that could be resolved, Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated to discuss resolution of such issues.

App. No. 09/544,399
RCE

Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 37 C.F.R. 1.17 that may be required for filing this paper to Kinetic Concepts, Inc. Deposit Account No. 500326.

Applicant respectfully requests favorable consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert W. Mason

Robert W. Mason
Reg. No. 42,848
Attorney for the Applicant

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Nov. 5, 2004 2:25PM KCI Legal IP

No. 4710 P. 6

App. No. 09/544,399
Amdt. Dated Nov. 5, 2004
Reply to Office Action of September 14, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A wound healing apparatus comprising:

a foam pad shaped for insertion into a wound bed, said pad comprising:
— a highly reticulated open-cell foam; and
a means for providing phototherapy through said foam pad into the tissue of the wound
bed.

Claim 2 (currently amended): A pad-wound healing apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said pad transmits electromagnetic radiation in a significant portion of the spectrum between approximately 300nm and approximately 1500nm.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A pad for insertion into a wound bed, said pad comprising:

according to claim 2 wherein said pad is comprised of a reticulated open-cell plasticized
acrylimide foam; and
a means for providing phototherapy.

Claim 4 (currently amended): A pad for insertion into a wound bed, said pad comprising:
according to claim 1 wherein said pad comprises a highly reticulated, open-cell foam
selected from the group consisting of polyurethane and polyether; and
a means for providing phototherapy.

Nov. 5. 2004 2:25PM KCI Legal IP

No. 4710 P. 7

App. No. 09/544,399
Amtd. Dated Nov. 5, 2004
Reply to Office Action of September 14, 2004

Claim 5 (currently amended): A pad-wound healing apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said phototherapy means comprises an optical fiber.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A pad-wound healing apparatus according to claim 5 wherein said fiber comprises a plurality of optically transmitting fibers.

**Claim 7 (currently amended): A pad for insertion into a wound bed, said pad comprising:
a highly reticulated open-cell foam; and
according to claim 1 wherein said means an optical pigtail for providing phototherapy
comprise an optical pigtail.**

Claim 8 (currently amended): A pad according to claim 7 wherein said pigtail comprises a plurality of optical fibers.

**Claim 9 (currently amended): A wound healing apparatus comprising:
a reticulated open-cell foam pad for insertion into a wound bed;
a means for providing phototherapy; and
according to claim 1, further comprising a device enabling the concurrent application of negative pressure therapy and the delivery of electromagnetic energy to a wound, wherein said device comprises a vacuum drainage means, an air tight drape providing a seal about said pad, and an energy emitter integrally incorporated within said pad.**

Nov. 5. 2004 2:26PM KCI Legal IP

No. 4710 P. 8

App. No. 09/544,399
Amtd. Dated Nov. 5, 2004
Reply to Office Action of September 14, 2004

Claim 10 (currently amended): A device wound healing apparatus according to claim 9 wherein
said energy emitter comprises optical slots.

Claim 11 (original): A method of providing concurrent negative pressure therapy and
phototherapy comprising negative pressure application means having phototherapy means
integrated therein.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A method according to claim 11 wherein said phototherapy
means comprises optical slots.

Claim 13 (previously presented): A pad for use in negative pressure therapy that also comprises
means for providing phototherapy, said pad comprised of a plasticized, acrylimide foam, and
wherein said pad transmits electromagnetic radiation in a significant portion of the spectrum
between about 300nm and approximately 1500nm.